Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus, comprising:

an electric generator mechanically connected to an engine so as to have a differential rotation with respect to the engine;

a generator brake for mechanically stopping a rotation of the generator; and

a controller that gradually decreases a generator torque while engaging the generator brake.

2. (Original) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein upon a generator brake engagement request, the controller sets a target generator rotation speed at zero and performs a rotation speed control of the generator.

3. (Original) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller gradually decreases the generator torque after an elapse of a predetermined time following engagement of the generator brake.

4. (Original) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller gradually decreases the generator torque by performing a rotation speed control of the generator.

5. (Original) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller gradually decreases the generator torque by gradually decreasing an integral component that occurs after a proportional component reaches zero in a PI control.

6. (Original) The hybrid vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller gradually decreases the generator torque by performing a torque control of the generator.

7-18. (Cancelled)